

HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
5th Floor Conference Room, City Hall
August 14, 2006
3:00 p.m.

Committee Members present: Holly Jones(Chair), Brownie Newman, Robin Cape

Staff: Jeff Richardson, Scott Shuford, Charlotte Caplan, Adria Hardy, Kathy Ivey

I. Open Meeting & Approve Minutes

Chair Holly Jones opened the meeting at 3:07 PM. The minutes for the June 12 meeting were approved.

II. Homelessness Issues

Amy Sawyer, Affordable Housing Coalition, gave an update on the implementation of the 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness. A point-in-time count on July 26 encouragingly showed numbers of homeless people similar to January's figures, without the expected summer increase. In discussion, the Committee identified access to mental health and substance abuse services as major barriers to further progress.

Scott Rogers, Asheville-Buncombe Community Christian Ministry, described the work being done by ABCCM, the Salvation Army, and the Rescue Mission. These agencies fully supported the 10-year Plan, but were concerned about possible re-allocation of funds away from existing effective intervention models and homelessness prevention through emergency assistance.

IV. Mobile Home Parks (MHPs)

The Committee viewed a video on a New Hampshire program for transferring ownership of MHPs to resident cooperatives. Staff pointed out that the number of mobile homes in Buncombe county was similar to that the whole of NH, and provided a map showing that nearly half of the county's MHPs were within the City, the ETJ or the annexation consideration area.

V. Other Business

The Committee briefly discussed the relocation of Vanderbilt Apartments residents during renovation, the temporary relocation of the Emma Family Resource Center, the Affordable Housing Fair held on August 12, and the possibility of collaboration between the City and the Housing Authority in residential redevelopment.

VI. Future Agenda Items

The Committee requested a presentation on current provision and future plans for mental health and substance abuse services.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 PM